

Ms. Bray,

Thank you for your question to the Austin Transportation Department; our team has prepared the following information in response to your question:

Question:

Hi Gary – I hope things are going great for you. I have a strange question there is a resident in my neighborhood who appears to be placing street signs (to existing poles) and tube counters along public roadways. In a span of 16 houses (8 on either side) there suddenly appeared a total of 6 (3 each direction) speed limit signs – 4 attached to street lights and 2 are separate pole mounts. The ones attached to the street lights were not there 2 weeks ago and seemed to have appeared over the weekend. I saw him yesterday placing “caution children at play” signs on the existing light poles and placing a tube counter across the roadway. My question/concern Can I find out if he has approval for any of this and/or if he has told the city he has the HOA’s approval? If you can either tell me who to call or e-mail I will be happy to. I am not trying to cause a stir, I know he has done things before on behalf of the HOA and yet the HOA had no knowledge. I have copied the HOA President on this, who is also my husband. I am concerned from both a COA compliance perspective as well as a MUTCD compliance perspective. The street where the signs are located is Via Correto (between Buena Suerte Drive and Via Mia) and the tube counter is at Buena Suerte. The neighborhood is Heights of Loma Vista – at the end of Davis Lane.

Answer from Gary Schatz:

Hi Becky. Hope all is well with you and yours. Your question is not as strange as you might think. We do see folks install their own “things” in the right of way. Under State law, only the owning jurisdiction may install traffic control devices. Anything else is considered an encroachment and removed. No, we don’t approve such activities unless there is a specific license agreement. As for traffic counts, anyone may hire a consultant to conduct those types of data collection efforts. I’ve copied Eric Bollich who is the area traffic engineer so he is aware of the matter. Let us know if we need to do anything specifically.

Answer from Eric Bollich:

The four unauthorized speed limit signs and two children at play signs were removed along Via Coretto on August 14. ATD still has the signs in case the HOA would like them returned.

Thank you,

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